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# Atmospheric correction and inherent optical property estimation in the southwest New Caledonia lagoon using AVNIR-2 high-resolution data

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## Abstract

Retrievals of inherent optical properties (IOPs) and Chlorophyll-a concentration (*Chla*) was investigated for AVNIR-2 images with 30-m spatial resolution and four bands in the southwest tropical lagoon of New Caledonia. We corrected the atmospheric and sea-surface reflectance iteratively through the retrieval of IOPs. After an additional correction of sea floor reflectance, the estimated IOPs and *Chla* agreed well with the in situ measurements even in the lagoon areas. This study provides a method to allowing a local optimal estimation of IOPs and *Chla* with a high resolution sensor by preparation of the candidate spectra for the target areas.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## 1.1 Ocean color retrievals in the coastal areas

Ocean color retrieval is a challenge in the coastal areas but is a powerful tool for coastal surveys. Sea surface reflection, including sunglint and whitecap, cause significant errors in the ocean color estimation [1,2,3]. Sea surface reflection can be estimated from a statistic scheme such as that presented by Cox and Munk [4] using low-resolution wind speed data from a microwave radiometer, a scatterometer, or objective analysis data (e.g., [5,6]). However, the correction based on the wind speed data is problematic in coastal areas because of fine variations in the distribution of surface reflection due to variable winds, fetch length, and air-sea stability caused by the fine structure of the coastal geography. Several studies have investigated high spatial resolution sunglint correction using hyperspectral bands or small scale glint variations (e.g. [7,8]). Murakami and Frouin [9] demonstrated the possibility of sunglint ( $\rho_g$ ) correction by using 500-m resolution near infrared (NIR) and shortwave infrared (SWIR) bands of Moderate Resolution Imaging Spectroradiometer (MODIS). Higher (10-30 m) spatial resolution sensors are expected to capture higher resolution spatial structures of ocean color phenomena, especially in the coastal areas. However, they have a limited number of spectral bands generally (e.g., without SWIR bands), which prevents the precise estimation of aerosol properties and the distinction between aerosol and sea-surface reflection.

In addition to these sensor limitations, coastal areas present difficulties for ocean color retrievals, *i.e.*, high NIR reflectance by suspended matter, complex Inherent Optical Properties (IOPs) due to various material inputs from the land, and bottom reflectance in the shallow areas. This explains why the blue/green ratio of remote sensing reflectance ( $R_{rs}$ ), which is

traditionally used in the empirical estimation of chlorophyll-a concentration (*Chla*), does not allow to calculate *Chla* in most cases of the coastal area (see Table 1 for symbol definitions and units).

## 1.2 The New Caledonia lagoon

The New Caledonia lagoon is a large, almost continuous lagoon (22177 km<sup>2</sup>) lying in the southwestern tropical Pacific from 20°S to 22°S and 166°E to 167°E (Fig. 1). Its heterogeneous bathymetry (25 m as a mean depth) is due to a complex geomorphology with the presence of sedimentary plains and a high proportion of shallow waters and numerous small sand islands [10,11,12]. It is largely connected to the open ocean along its southern side, but only by narrow passes in its southwestern side. It is an example of a coral reef lagoon system, which are very sensitive to anthropogenic (nutrients, mining) perturbations [10,11] as well as to interannual changes linked to the balance between dry El Niño and wet La Niña episodes [13,14], which are amplified in lagoons [12]. The central lagoon is characterized by oligotrophic to mesotrophic waters (yearly average chlorophyll-a concentration of  $0.25 \pm 0.01$  mg m<sup>-3</sup>) [15,16] and exhibits a strong seasonal cycle with higher values in austral winter (July) or austral summer (February) during nitrogen-fixing *Trichodesmium* blooms [17,18,19,20]. Upwelling at the barrier reefs [21] as well as internal waves in the southern part of the lagoon are two major mechanisms of exchange with the sea, which can modify the phytoplanktonic assemblage [22].

Rain can also induce large chlorophyll enrichments in the lagoon [23]. With relatively low river inputs and a low turbidity range (0.20-16 g m<sup>-3</sup>), its trophic state is linked to spatial variations in flushing times [12,16,24]. Similarly to “optically complex” Case 2 European waters [25] or coastal bays [26], reflectance in the New Caledonia lagoon can be highly

variable [27] as in other tropical environments [28], the Australian Great Barrier Reef [29], tropical estuaries [30] with a high influence of mineral particles from river discharge in bays [31] or colored dissolved organic matter (CDOM) [32]. Additionally, bottom reflectance, which represents a strong component in clear tropical shallow waters, may influence  $R_{rs}$  [33,34,35,36].

In order to improve the challenge of remote sensing in coastal environments [37], surface water IOPs (absorption and backscattering) were measured during several observation campaigns (e.g., coastal stations of Diapalis in 2003, Bissecote, Echolag, Valhybio, and the Valhybio Monthly Survey cruises from 2006 to 2010) in the lagoon and at different seasons [27,38,39]. The bathymetry of the Southern New Caledonia lagoon was compiled [12].

### 1.3 ALOS AVNIR-2

Advanced Land Observation Satellite (ALOS) has been operated by JAXA from 24 Jan. 2006 to 12 May 2011 and carried the Advanced Visible and Near Infrared Radiometer type 2 (AVNIR-2). AVNIR-2 has four spectral bands (centered at 463 nm, 560 nm, 652 nm, and 821 nm) with a 10-m Instantaneous Field of View (IFOV), a 70-km Field of View (FOV) and a mechanical pointing function (by moving mirror) along the cross-track direction ( $\pm 44$  deg) for effective global land observation. To achieve the ALOS mission objectives (cartography, regional observation, disaster monitoring, resources survey, and technology development) and to expand to quantitative applications, such as determination of vegetation density, coastal water color and their time dependencies, it is important to evaluate, improve and maintain the radiometric calibration accuracy of AVNIR-2 (the pre-defined target is absolute error less than 10% [40]). The cross-calibration with MODIS indicated that the difference in top of

atmosphere (TOA) radiance is less than 3% in the visible bands, and the temporal stability of the radiance is less than 2% per 1000 days [41].

## 1.4 Scope of this study

Atmospheric and sea surface correction and IOP estimation were conducted using the four bands of 30-m images averaged from AVNIR-2 10-m images (see section 2.1). The linear matrix inversion (LMI) of IOPs [42,43,44] and atmospheric + surface reflection correction was simplified to allow the four-band and high spatial resolution AVNIR-2 retrievals. Influence of the bottom reflectance was reduced by using bathymetry data with a unique spectrum of bottom reflectance. We compared the IOP estimates by different candidate IOP spectra (observed particles + CDOM absorption ( $a_{pg}$ ) and particle backscattering ( $b_{bp}$ ) spectra) in the LMI scheme.  $Chla$  was estimated by two ways, from a statistical relationship with  $a_{pg}$ , or from blue/green ratio of  $R_{rs}$ . For the series of AVNIR2 images available over the New Caledonia lagoon, we validated the derived IOPs ( $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$ ) and  $Chla$  using in situ measurements around the AVNIR-2 observation dates.

## 2. DATA AND METHODS

### 2.1 AVNIR-2 images and radiance correction

AVNIR-2 data have 10-m spatial resolution but only 8-bit digital resolution with relatively low gain designed for the land-surface observations. We averaged AVNIR-2 TOA radiance images to a 30-m (0.0003 degrees equal latitude-longitude) grid to reduce the sensor noise before the atmospheric correction because the ocean-color signal is much lower than atmospheric one in the visible wavelengths.

The AVNIR-2 in-orbit radiometric performance was evaluated through a comparison with Aqua MODIS by the cross-calibration scheme [41]. This scheme uses the TOA reflectance functions of the satellite zenith angle estimated by Aqua MODIS observations within  $\pm 16$  days from the AVNIR-2 observation over temporally and spatially stable ground areas. The cross calibration with the Aqua MODIS over the Antarctic snow fields allow us to correct AVNIR-2 bands 1-4 by the correction coefficients shown in Table 2. We calculated the TOA reflectance of standard gas absorption conditions (column ozone = 343.8DU, water vapor = 14.19 mm, and pressure = 1013.25 hPa) from the AVNIR-2 radiance observation as shown in Appendix.

Seventeen clear AVNIR-2 scenes were captured around the target area in the ALOS mission period. The dates were 10 Sep. and 27 Sep. in 2006, 12 Feb., 3 Mar., 15 May, and 31 Jul. in 2007, 31 Oct. and 17 Nov. in 2008, 3 Sep. and 20 Nov. in 2009, 5 Jan., 3 Feb., 21 Mar., 8 Aug., and 22 Dec. in 2010, and 24 Mar. and 10 Apr. in 2011. Some scenes (27 Sep. 2006, 12 Feb. 2007, 31 Oct. and 17 Nov. 2008, 20 Nov. 2009, and 5 Jan. 2010) were covered by the sunglint. Match-ups with in situ measurements were obtained (total 15 points) on 3 Sep. 2009 (time difference from the AVNIR-2 observation  $\Delta D=5$  days), 17-18 Nov. 2009 ( $\Delta D=2$  days), and 11 Jan. 2010 ( $\Delta D=6$  days).

## 2.2 Simplification of the atmospheric and surface corrections

At each solar and sensor geometry condition, the TOA reflectance  $\rho_b$ , for which gaseous absorption is normalized by standard atmosphere condition, can be described as follows.

$$\rho_t(\lambda_b) = \rho_r(\lambda_b) + \rho_a(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) + t(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) \times \rho_g(\lambda_b) + T(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) \times \rho_{wc}(\lambda_b) + T(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) \times \rho_w(\lambda_b) \quad (1)$$

where  $\rho_r$  is the atmospheric molecule reflectance,  $\rho_a$  is the aerosol reflectance, including aerosol-molecule interaction,  $\rho_w$  is the water-leaving reflectance,  $\rho_g$  is the sunglint reflectance,  $\rho_{wc}$  is the whitecap reflectance,  $t$  is the atmospheric direct transmittance (sun-surface + surface-satellite), and  $T$  is the direct + diffuse transmittance (sun-surface + surface-satellite),  $\lambda_b$  is the center wavelength of sensor spectral band,  $\tau_a$  is the aerosol optical thickness, and  $M$  is the aerosol model.  $\rho_g$  can be estimated by a statistical equation [4] using wind speed and the refractive index of water at each wavelength. However, there is no simultaneous 30-m resolution wind speed data, and the statistical relation is not always consistent with the real complicated sea surface.

The Rayleigh scattering of  $\rho_r$  and  $T$  (at  $\tau_a=0$ ) can be estimated by atmospheric radiative transfer simulation. In order to achieve this, we used Pstar2b [45], which takes into account atmospheric polarization, provided by the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES) GOSAT project and the OpenCLASTR project [46,47,48]. We prepared look-up tables of  $\rho_r(\lambda_b)$  (including sea-surface reflection with wind speed = 0) and  $T$  at each geometric condition.

The Rayleigh-scattering subtracted reflectance ( $\rho_{agw}$ ) can be described by the following Eq. (2).

$$\begin{aligned} \rho_{agw}(\lambda_b) &\equiv (\rho_t(\lambda_b) - \rho_r(\lambda_b)) / T(\lambda_b, \tau_a=0) \\ &= [ \rho_a(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) / T(\lambda_b, \tau_a=0) + t(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) / T(\lambda_b, \tau_a=0) \times \rho_g(\lambda_b) + T(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) / T(\lambda_b, \tau_a=0) \times \rho_{wc}(\lambda_b) ] + T(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) / T(\lambda_b, \tau_a=0) \times \rho_w(\lambda_b) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

The  $T(\lambda_{b=1,2,3 \text{ and } 4}, \tau_a=0)$  are about 0.83, 0.91, 0.95, and 0.98 respectively at  $\theta_{sun}=\theta_{sat}=0$ .  $T(\lambda_b, \tau_a, M) / T(\lambda_b, \tau_a=0)$  can be approximated as 1.0 because it is >0.9 when  $\tau_a < 0.5$ . We simplified aerosol and surface reflection ( $\rho_{ag} \equiv \rho_a + \rho_g$ ) as the following form (Eq. (3)) because  $\rho_{ag}$  is to



be spectrally smooth and can be approximated by a power function  $\alpha$  of the wavelength ratio in most cases [49].

$$\rho_{ag}(\lambda_b) \equiv \rho_{ag}(821 \text{ nm}) \times (\lambda_b \times c_{wl} / 821 \text{ nm})^\alpha \quad (3)$$

The spectral shape of  $\rho_{ag}$  was improved by a correction factor,  $c_{wl}$  ( $= 0.99$  at band 3 (652 nm) and  $1.0$  at other bands), which was derived from the atmospheric radiative transfer simulation (the root mean square error of  $\rho_{ag}$  is  $0.004$  at  $463 \text{ nm}$  for the tropospheric, oceanic, and their mixed aerosols in the case of aerosol optical thickness  $= 0.3$  and air-mass  $pl < 4$ ). The  $\alpha$  ranged from  $-0.5$  to  $+0.3$  for the oceanic aerosols and from  $-1.8$  to  $-1.2$  for the tropospheric aerosols.

The variables about the aerosol and surface reflection,  $\alpha$  and  $\rho_{ag}(821 \text{ nm})$ , could be estimated using the AVNIR-2 data through an iteration with the IOP retrieval described in the next section. The approximation of Eq. (3) enabled quick processing including the iteration scheme.

### 2.3 IOP and water-leaving reflectance estimation

Most of the IOP algorithms [50] are based on the equation of remote sensing reflectance below the surface ( $r_{rs}$ ), the total absorption coefficient ( $a$ ) and the backscattering coefficient ( $b_b$ ) proposed by Gordon et al. [51].

$$r_{rs}(\lambda) = g_1 \times u(\lambda) + g_2 \times u(\lambda)^2 \quad (4)$$

$$a(\lambda) = a_w(\lambda) + a_{ph}(\lambda) + a_d(\lambda) + a_g(\lambda) \quad (5)$$

$$b_b(\lambda) = b_{bw}(\lambda) + b_{bp}(\lambda) \quad (6)$$

with

$$u(\lambda) = b_b(\lambda) / (b_b(\lambda) + a(\lambda)) \quad (7)$$

where  $g_1=0.0949$  and  $g_2=0.0794$  [51].  $a_w$ ,  $a_{ph}$ ,  $a_d$ , and  $a_g$  are the absorption spectra of water, phytoplankton, detritus, and CDOM respectively.  $b_{bw}$  and  $b_{bp}$  are backscattering coefficients of water and particles. Remote sensing reflectance above the surface,  $R_{rs}$  is estimated from  $r_{rs}$  using the relation from [51,52] as:

$$R_{rs}(\lambda) = 0.52 \times r_{rs}(\lambda) / (1 - 1.7 \times r_{rs}(\lambda)). \quad (8)$$

The water-leaving reflectance  $\rho_w$  in (1) is simply calculated from the  $R_{rs}$ .

$$\rho_w(\lambda) = \pi \times R_{rs}(\lambda) \quad (9)$$

We used the LMI scheme [42,43,44] to estimate IOPs. The scheme requires  $a_w$ ,  $b_{bw}$ , and model spectra,  $a_{ph}'$ ,  $a_{dg}'$  (absorption of detritus + CDOM), and  $b_{bp}'$ , which is normalized at a specific wavelength (442 nm was used in this study). We used  $a_w$  and  $b_{bw}$  values from [53,54] weighted by the AVNIR-2 spectral response (shown in Table 3). Wavelength functions of  $a_{dg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  were as follows.

$$a_{dg}(\lambda_b) = a_{dg0} \times a_{dg}(\lambda)', \quad (10)$$

$$b_{bp}(\lambda_b) = b_{bp0} \times b_{bp}(\lambda_b)', \quad (11)$$

where

$$a_{dg}(\lambda)' = \exp(S \times (\lambda - 442)) \quad (12)$$

$$b_{bp}(\lambda)' = (\lambda / 442)^Y \quad (13)$$

where  $a_{dg0}$  is  $a_{dg}$  at 442 nm,  $b_{bp0}$  is  $b_{bp}$  at 442 nm,  $S = -0.010$  or  $-0.018$ , and  $Y = -1.4$ ,  $0$ , or  $+2$ .  $S = -0.010$  and  $Y = -1.4$  were derived from the New Caledonia in situ measurements of  $a_{dg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  respectively.

The inversion process was simplified to use only two IOP parameters,  $a_{pg}$  ( $\equiv a_p + a_g \equiv a_{ph} + a_{dg}$ ) and  $b_{bp}$ , and two AVNIR-2 bands, band 1 (463 nm) and band 2 (560 nm). We set the  $a_{pg}$  as follows.

$$a_{pg}(\lambda_b) = a_{pg0} \times a_{pg}(\lambda_b)' = a_{pg0} \times \{ (1 - r_{pg}) \times a_{ph}(\lambda_b)' + r_{pg} \times a_{dg}(\lambda_b)' \} \quad (14)$$

where  $a_{pg0}$  is  $a_{pg}$  at 442 nm. The ratio of  $a_{ph}$  and  $a_{dg}$  at 442 nm,  $r_{pg}$ , was set to  $0.52 / (1 + 0.52)$  considering the normal conditions observed in the New Caledonia in situ data [32]. We can estimate two parameters of IOPs,  $a_{pg0}$  and  $b_{bp0}$ , by the iteration processes of the IOP forward calculation and LMI [42,43,44].

If we have an initial value of  $a_{pg0}$  and  $b_{bp0}$ ,  $\rho_w$  can be calculated by (4)-(14). Using the  $\rho_w$ ,  $\rho_{ag}$  at 652 nm and 821 nm can be calculated using molecular scattering corrected reflectance derived from satellite observation ( $\rho_{agw}$ ) as:

$$\rho_{ag}(\lambda) = \rho_{agw}(\lambda) - \rho_w(\lambda) \quad (15)$$

where  $\lambda = 652$  nm and 821 nm. Considering an approximation of Eq. (3),  $\alpha$  can be calculated by Eq. (16).

$$\alpha = \log(\rho_{ag}(652 \text{ nm}) / \rho_{ag}(821 \text{ nm})) / \log(652 \times c_{wl} / 821) \quad (16)$$

Then,  $\rho_w$  at 463 nm and 560 nm are calculated by Eqs. (3) and (15). Using the  $\rho_w$  at the two visible bands,  $a_{pg0}$  and  $b_{bp0}$  can be calculated by the LMI [42,43,44].

The iteration process to derive the final value of  $a_{pg0}$  and  $b_{bp0}$  is shown in Fig. 2. The first process aims to estimate  $\alpha$  except for shallow areas (bathymetry < 20m) where the bottom reflectance can influence  $r_{rs}$ . The iteration was repeated to find optimal values of  $a_{pg0}$  and  $b_{bp0}$

by minimizing the difference between  $b_{bp0}$  preset in Eq. (11) and  $b_{bp0}$  calculated by the inversion matrix. The initial value of  $a_{pg0}$  was set to 0.01, which does not affect the final  $a_{pg0}$  estimates because  $a_{pg}$  is relatively small in the total  $a$  in red and NIR wavelengths. The sub-process is repeated until  $|a_{pg0} - a_{pg0}'| < 0.0001$  (practically less than four times in most pixels) with revision of  $a_{pg0}$  and the search range of  $b_{bp0}$  ( $b_{bp0}^{(max)}$ ) which is set by  $\rho_{ag}$  at 821 nm and the extremely high  $a_{pg0} = 20 \text{ m}^{-1}$ . After completing the first process, we smoothed  $\alpha$  for each  $0.1 \text{ deg} \times 0.1 \text{ deg}$  area to reduce the AVNIR-2 sensor noise and extrapolate to the shallow (<20m) areas where we did not estimate  $\alpha$  in the first process. The second process derives  $\rho_{ag}$ ,  $a_{pg}$ ,  $b_{bp}$ , and  $R_{rs}$  for every 30-m grid using the same equations. We can derive IOPs and  $R_{rs}$  at any wavelengths (AVNIR-2 bands at 463 nm and 560 nm and the wavelengths of the in situ measurements at 442 nm and 555 nm) using the IOP spectra  $a_{pg}(\lambda)$  and  $b_{bp}(\lambda)$  (see section 2.5).

## 2.4 Chlorophyll-a estimation

Chlorophyll-a was estimated by regression of  $a_{pg}(442 \text{ nm})$  and the empirical blue/green as follows:

$$\log_{10}(Chla) = 0.9706 + 1.1835 \times \log_{10}(a_{pg}(442 \text{ nm})) \quad (17)$$

$$\log_{10}(Chla) = 0.1464 - 1.7953 r + 0.9718 r^2 - 0.8319 r^3 - 0.8073 r^4 \quad (18)$$

where

$$r = \log_{10}(R_{rs}(463 \text{ nm}) / R_{rs}(560 \text{ nm})). \quad (19)$$

The relationship between  $Chla$  and  $a_{pg}(443 \text{ nm})$  was derived from  $a_{pg}$  and the fluorometric chlorophyll-a data included in the bio-Optical Marine Algorithm Data set (NOMAD) [55] (Fig. 3). The MODIS OC2M-HI equation developed by the NASA Ocean Biology Processing Group

(OBPG) using the NOMAD database [6] was used for the two channel equation because AVNIR-2 has only two channels in blue and green wavelengths.

## 2.5 In situ bio-optical measurements

Field measurements of the two IOPs, the absorption coefficient,  $a$ , and the backscattering coefficient,  $b_b$ , were obtained at stations in the southwest part of the lagoon (Fig. 1) during various seasons from 2006 to 2010. The  $b_b$  was measured with a Hydrosat-6 profiler (H6: HoboLabs, wavebands ( $\lambda$ ) centered at 442, 488, 510, 550, 620 and 670 nm with a bandwidth of 10 nm for the 442–550 nm bands and 20 nm for the 620 and 670 nm bands) [19,27]. The particulate back-scattering coefficient,  $b_{bp}(\lambda)$ , was calculated by subtracting from  $b_b(\lambda)$  the theoretical “pure water spectrum”,  $b_{bw}(\lambda)$  (calculated as  $b_{bw}(\lambda) = 0.5 \times b_w(\lambda)$ ) [51]. The particulate absorption coefficient,  $a_p(\lambda)$ , was measured with the filter-pad technique [56] using water samples filtered onto 25-mm GF/F Whatman filters. For pigments, the filters were dipped in 5.4 ml 100% acetone (final concentration 90% acetone taking into account water retention by the filter, e.g.,  $0.621 \pm 0.034$  ml) and ground with the freshly broken end of a glass rod for chlorophyll and phaeopigment extraction [57]. For comparison with the satellite-estimated *Chla*, we used the sum of chlorophyll a and divinyl chlorophyll a, *Chla* (in  $\text{mg m}^{-3}$ ), as measured by spectrofluorometry, and well correlated with fluorometry in the Caledonian lagoon [15,27].

For the LMI, we prepared the model spectra of  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  optimized for the New Caledonia in situ samples (six samples of  $a_{ph}$  and  $a_{dg}$  in 2003, and 112 samples of  $b_{bp}$  in 2006–2010). The samples of  $a_{ph}$  and  $a_{dg}$  were distributed around the lagoon of the southeast New Caledonia, but not near bays of the mainland. The spectral shape  $a_{dg}'$  and  $b_{bp}'$  (relative values

from  $\lambda=442$  nm) were modeled by Eqs. (12) and (13) respectively. The model spectra from the averages of the New Caledonia measurements were used as the standard in sensitivity tests described below.

We tested the sensitivity of different sets of model spectra: (A)  $a_{pg}'$  and  $b_{bp}'$  from the New Caledonia measurements (e.g., same as the above); (B) same as (A) but  $a_{ph}'$  from a picoplankton spectra [58]; (c) same as (A) except for  $a_{ph}'$  from a microplankton spectra [58]; (D) same as (A) except for  $a_{dg}'$  with  $S = -0.018$ ; (E) same as (A) except for  $b_{bp}'$  with  $Y = 0.0$ ; and (F) same as (A) except for  $b_{bp}'$  with  $Y = -2.0$  (Fig. 4). These  $a_{ph}'$  spectra are listed in Table 3.

## 2.6 Correction of sea floor reflection

The  $R_{rs}$  and IOP estimation might be influenced by bottom reflectance especially in low absorption and shallow areas, such as site G003 near the barrier reef (11 meters depth, bottom composed of white sands).  $r_{rs}$  in shallow areas was approximated by the following equation from [59]:

$$r_{rs} \sim r_{rs}^{dp} \times [1 - \exp\{ -\kappa H \times (1 / \cos \theta_{0w} + D_u^C / \cos \theta_w) \}] + \rho_b / \pi \times \exp\{ -\kappa H \times (1 / \cos \theta_{0w} + D_u^B / \cos \theta_w) \} \quad (20)$$

where  $\rho_b$  is the bottom albedo,  $H$  is the bottom depth,  $\theta_{0w}$  is the subsurface solar zenith angle,  $\theta_w$  is the subsurface viewing angle from nadir ( $\theta_w = \sin^{-1}(1 / 1.34 \times \sin \theta_a)$ ,  $\theta_a$  is the above-surface angle),  $r_{rs}^{dp}$  is the remote-sensing reflectance for optically deep water, and  $\kappa$  is the attenuation coefficient ( $\kappa(\lambda) = a(\lambda) + b_b(\lambda)$ ).  $D_u^C$  and  $D_u^B$  are optical path-elongation factors

for scattered photons from the water column and bottom respectively, which are described by functions of  $u(\lambda)$  following [59].

Because  $\rho_b$  is unknown at each image grid in this study, we used a  $\rho_b$  spectrum of coral sand shown by Fig. 6 of [60] ( $\rho_b = 0.33$  and  $0.47$  at  $442\text{nm}$  and  $555\text{nm}$  respectively). The similar  $\rho_b$  spectra of the sandy sea bottom were reported around the coral reef system by [61,62]. We use  $H$  compiled in [12] (Fig. 5). Attenuation coefficient,  $\kappa(\lambda)$ , is iteratively calculated through the IOP estimation described in section 2.3 by changing  $H$  from enough deep depth ( $1000\text{m}$ ) to the actual sea-floor depth gradually. Such an approach has been used to retrieve bathymetry [36].

## 2.7 MODIS ocean color products

NASA OBPG Aqua MODIS products,  $R_{rs}$  at  $443\text{ nm}$ ,  $R_{rs}$  at  $555\text{ nm}$ , and  $Chla$  (processing version 2009.1) [6], were used for the comparison to our results. The global accuracies of the MODIS data set, reported as the median absolute percent differences of normalized water-leaving radiance ( $L_{wn}$ ) at  $443\text{ nm}$ ,  $L_{wn}$  at  $555\text{ nm}$ , and  $Chla$  from global in situ observations, are  $18\%$ ,  $17\%$ , and  $37\%$  respectively [6,63]. We selected clear MODIS scenes  $\pm 1$  day from AVNIR-2 observations or between the AVNIR-2 and in situ observation dates.

## 3. RESULTS

### 3.1 $R_{rs}$ and $\rho_{ag}$

Figure 6 shows results of the  $\rho_{agw}$  ( $463\text{ nm}$ ),  $\rho_{ag}$  ( $463\text{ nm}$ ),  $\alpha$ ,  $\rho_w$  ( $463\text{ nm}$ ) without bottom correction, and  $\rho_w$  ( $463\text{ nm}$ ) with bottom correction on 17 Nov. 2008 and 3 Sep. 2009. On 17 Nov. 2008, the area was covered by sunglint (brighter on the right side in Figs. 6a and 6b).  $\rho_{ag}$  (Fig. 6b) showed small-scale structures of the surface reflection caused by the winds and

geographical features.  $\alpha$  (Figs. 6c and 6h) was smoothed in each  $0.1 \text{ deg} \times 0.1 \text{ deg}$  grid after the first process ((a) in Fig. 2). The estimated  $\rho_w$  (Fig. 6d) was very smooth offshore and showed fine structures inside the lagoon. On 3 Sep. 2009, aerosol with small clouds extended northwest to southeast over the area (Fig. 6g). The aerosol pattern was removed effectively in the  $\rho_w$  image (Fig. 6i) by subtracting  $\rho_{ag}$  (Fig. 6g) from  $\rho_{agw}$  (Fig. 6f). High reflectance areas remained inside the lagoon with a dark area along the outside of the barrier reef.

The comparison between AVNIR  $R_{rs}$  and MODIS  $R_{rs}$  at 442nm (or 443 nm) and 555 nm is shown in Fig. 7. AVNIR-2  $R_{rs}$  at 555nm appears slightly higher, but the results are closely correlated (0.77 and 0.54 at 442 nm and 555 nm, respectively, and the Root Mean Square Difference (RMSD) was about 40% and 63% of the average  $R_{rs}$  for AVNIR-2 and MODIS, respectively) except for some samples at the shallow stations (*e.g.*, B50 and B03). An outlier at station G003 in Fig 7a (AVNIR-2  $R_{rs}$  at 442 nm is about 0.03) seemed to be influenced by cloud edge in the AVNIR-2 image on 31 Jul. 2007.

Figures 6e and 6j show the AVNIR-2  $\rho_w$  at 463nm with the correction of bottom reflectance. The correction decreases  $\rho_w$  inside of the lagoon (*e.g.*, at stations M33 and G003) and reduces the pattern of the bathymetry (seen Fig. 5) in most areas in the  $\rho_w$  images. However, it seems to cause overcorrection in some areas, *e.g.*, around the islands and the barrier reef.

### 3.2 $a_{pg}$ and $b_{bp}$

Figures 8a and 8b shows  $a_{pg}$  at 442nm and  $b_{bp}$  at 555nm without the bottom correction (using model spectra (A) in Table 4).  $a_{pg}$  was high along the coast and in bays near the main land. On the other hand,  $b_{bp}$  was high inside the lagoon especially at shallow bottom areas (*e.g.*,



G003). Scatter plots between the in situ ( $a_p \times 1.52$ ) and the AVNIR-2  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  estimates are shown in Figs. 9a and 9b. They show that AVNIR-2  $a_{pg}$  is well correlated with in situ values for  $a_{pg}$  ( $r = 0.91$  in Fig. 9a) even though the factor 1.52 may vary with changing proportions of  $a_p$  or  $a_g$  in  $a_{pg} = a_p + a_g$ . AVNIR-2  $b_{bp}$  showed a high correlation coefficient (about 0.94 at 555 nm), but some values of  $b_{bp}$  were higher than the in situ  $b_{bp}$ . The overestimated samples were found in shallow areas (3.6 m, 6 m, 5m, and 11 m at stations B50, B03, Ile aux Canards and G003 respectively).

Figures 8c and 8d show  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  with the bottom reflectance correction on 3 Sep 2009. The correction decreased  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  in the lagoon areas. The comparison to the in-situ observations (Figs. 9c and 9d) showed that the correction improved the agreement especially at stations M33, Ile aux Canards, and G003 where the bottom depth is shallow and  $a_{pg}$  is relatively low. The AVNIR-2  $a_{pg}$  was still higher than the in-situ  $a_{pg}$  at stations B50 and B03 around the Boulari Bay. Bias of  $a_{pg}$  ( $b_{bp}$ ) were improved from 0.188 to 0.118 (from 0.023 to 0.015), and RMSD of  $a_{pg}$  ( $b_{bp}$ ) from 0.489 to 0.290 (from 0.042 to 0.025) by the bottom correction.

Table 4 shows the results for the fifteen match-ups by using different spectra of  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$ . Superscripts – and + show results with smaller or larger bias or RMSD (statistically significance level of 95%) than ones by the model spectrum (A). The results depended on the model spectra significantly, and the model (D) brought the smallest RMSD of both  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  with the bottom reflectance correction. Note that the microplankton for  $a_{ph}$  [58] gives larger RMSD than the measured around New Caledonia. Similarly, a slope of  $Y = -2$  is too different from those measured and would not allow a proper retrieval of IOPs from AVNIR-2. Figures

9e-9h show the scatter plots by the model spectrum (D). RMSDs of  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  are significantly decreased (especially stations B50 and B03) by the optimal model spectrum.

### 3.3 Chlorophyll-a concentration

Figures 10 and 11 show the comparison among *Chla* estimated from  $a_{pg}$  (by the optimal model (D)), *Chla* calculated by OC2M-HI (using  $R_{rs}$  by AVNIR-2), and the MODIS standard (OC3M) 1-km *Chla*. *Chla* estimated from  $a_{pg}$  (Figs. 10a and 11a) was slightly smaller than *Chla* determined by other algorithms in the lagoon areas (*e.g.*, sites B08 and Ile aux Canards in Figs. 10 and 11). The AVNIR-2 OC2M-HI *Chla* was larger than indicated by the in situ data and similar to the MODIS standard value in the lagoon (see around sites M33 and G003 in Figs. 10b, 10e, and Figs. 11b and 11e). The scatter plots show that *Chla* from  $a_{pg}$  provides the best agreement among the three methods in the lagoon (RMSD=0.47, 0.61, and 0.60 in Figs. 10a, 10b, and 10e). The MODIS data at stations M33 and GD10 were scattered because they were too near the coast or the lagoon islands compared to the 1-km resolution products.

Figures 11c and 11d show results with the bottom correction. OC2M-HI *Chla* (Fig. 11d) was calculated by  $R_{rs}$  from  $r_{rs}^{dp}$  (Eq. (8)). Usual high biases of  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  in the shallow areas (B50, B03, and Ile aux Canards) around lagoon islands were decreased by the correction (Figs. 8c and 8d). It reduced overestimate of *Chla* by both  $a_{pg}$  and OC2 schemes, and improved the agreement with the in-situ matchups inside the lagoon (Figs. 10c and 10d).

## 4. DISCUSSION

### 4.1 $a_{pg}$ and $b_{bp}$ spectra

Agreement with in situ data was dependent on spectra of  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  (Table 4). For example, the  $a_{ph}$  spectrum of microplankton [58] (model C) and  $b_{bp}$  spectrum of  $Y=-2.0$  (F) caused worse results than the spectrum modeled from New Caledonia in situ measurements (A) (Table 4). The agreement may be improved further if we optimize the spectra to more specific water types, *e.g.*, bays near the main land, middle-lagoon waters, and waters outside of the barrier reef (*e.g.*, open ocean). For example, modification of spectral slope of  $a_{dg}$  improved the IOP estimate especially around the Boulari Bay (model (D) in Fig. 9). The accuracies of the best results ( $r=0.91$  and  $r=0.75$  in Figs. 9g and 9h respectively) were better than ones by Quasi-Analytical Algorithm (QAA) [52,64] by using 1km MODIS Aqua Rrs data ( $r=0.84$  and  $0.72$  for  $a_{pg}$  443nm and  $b_{bp}$  555nm respectively (Figures of QAA results are not shown here).

Such an optimization with the best-candidate spectra can be a useful way to obtain locally-optimized environmental monitoring from satellite observations with theoretical understanding of the local optical environment.

This study cannot determine spectral models such as the ratio between  $a_p$  and  $a_g$  (or  $a_{ph}$  and  $a_{dg}$ ), because AVNIR-2 has only two channels in the blue and green wavelengths. More bands at 250 m to 300 m of spatial resolution from sensors such as SGLI and OLCI may be able to improve the discrimination of the IOPs.

The IOP retrieval schemes have been developed for observations by narrow (about 10-20nm) band-width sensors, estimates of absorption coefficients by the wide band can cause errors reaching about 20% [65] by the QAA [52,64] through the integration of the IOP spectra

in the band wavelengths. Our estimates rely on relatively wide bands (about 90nm) of AVNIR-2. We confirmed our retrieval of  $a_{pg}$  by the LMI can change about 20% (mostly overestimated) using simulated  $Rrs$  from our in-situ  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$ . The error is still much smaller than the error due to difference of the model IOP spectra, however, it will need to be considered for more precise estimate in the future.

## 4.2 Aerosol and sea surface reflection estimation

Most of the iteration schemes for the atmospheric correction use the relationship between NIR  $R_{rs}$  and  $Chla$ . This study uses the relationships among  $a_{pg}$ ,  $b_{bp}$ ,  $\rho_{ag}$ , and  $\alpha$  based on the convergence of  $b_{bp}$ . This scheme can avoid negative IOPs by tuning the aerosol parameters  $\alpha$  and  $\rho_{ag}$  in the iteration process. Another merit of this aerosol estimation is the fast processing time (2-3 minutes for our study area (2001×1334 pixels) by a wide-use PC Linux machine) because it does not require time to access the aerosol look-up table that is used in the standard ocean color atmospheric correction algorithms.

The New Caledonia lagoon area has a relatively clear atmosphere compared to coasts in the northern hemisphere, such as the Asian coasts. This scheme does not consider absorptive aerosols that cannot be described by the simple Eq. (3). For more complex atmosphere (aerosol) conditions, more bands may be necessary than the two that were used here for the aerosol characterization (this study used 652 nm and 821 nm). If the sensor has lower noise and SWIR bands (e.g., MODIS 500 m bands and SGLI 250m band), we may be able to estimate  $\alpha$  at each pixel and obtain more realistic measurements of  $\alpha$  and  $\rho_{ag}$ . However, the absorptive aerosol correction may still be difficult using the simple Eq. (3).

### 4.3 The bottom effect

AVNIR-2  $b_{bp}$  seemed to be influenced by the bottom reflectance. Bottom sands can be seen from satellite if bathymetry is shallow. For example, the bottom depth of the station G003 is 11 m with a relatively low  $a_{pg}$ . Agreement between AVNIR-2 IOPs and in situ IOPs were improved by considering the bottom reflectance generally, but they seemed to be overcorrected in some areas around the islands and along the barrier reef (Fig 6j). They are supposed to be influenced by coverage of live corals or sediment from the land, which may cause a different spectrum of the bottom reflectance from the coral sand reflectance [60,61,62]. This indicates that our IOP estimation could be improved if the precise bottom depth and real bottom reflectance are used [36].

### 4.4 Cloud shadow and adjacent scattering

For the 10-m resolution data, it is important to consider cloud shadow and sea surface reflection of scattered light from the cloud bottom. Identification of clouds around the coast (including over the land) and geometric calculation considering the cloud height are required. In addition, the clouds and land area can influence the coastal ocean color estimation, which is known as the adjacent effect [66]. The influence of the cloud shadow seemed to affect  $b_{bp}$ , but not  $a_{pg}$  as observed in the southeastern part of Fig. 8. Further study is needed to determine  $b_{bp}$  in the absence of the influence of the cloud effects.

## 5. CONCLUSION

This study investigated the correction of atmospheric scattering and sea surface reflection in the southwest region of the New Caledonia lagoon using AVNIR-2 images, which have four bands from visible to NIR wavelengths with 10-m resolution (our processing was conducted

after averaging for 30-m (3×3) grids). We applied corrections for gas absorption, molecule scattering, and  $\rho_a + \rho_g$  using the iteration scheme for converging  $b_{bp}$  through IOPs from visible bands. This scheme was able to correct fine structure patterns of the  $\rho_a + \rho_g$  successfully. The AVNIR-2-estimated  $R_{rs}$  agreed well with the MODIS  $R_{rs}$  (root-mean square difference / average of  $R_{rs}$  at 443 nm = 40%). Future projects, e.g., the Global Change Observation Mission (GCOM), using the Second-generation Global Imager (SGLI) and the Sentinel-3 Ocean and Land Colour Imager (OLCI), will have finer (250 m - 300 m) spatial resolution aiming for coastal monitoring with a swath of more than 1150 km. These missions will require a correction of the surface reflection with high spatial resolution and a reduction of masked areas in order to increase the observation frequency in the coastal areas.

With the bottom correction, the AVNIR-2-estimated IOPs agreed well with in situ IOP measurements (correlation coefficients were more than 0.9). Overcorrection appeared in the muddy bays and along the barrier reef, and it suggested that a constant bottom reflectance was not applicable in these areas.

This study showed that the AVNIR-2-estimated  $Chla$  from the  $a_{pg}$  regression scheme in the lagoon area does not show the overestimation observed with the blue / green  $R_{rs}$  ratio. This also confirms that the relationship between  $Chla$  and  $a_{pg}$  in the lagoon area is not different from the  $a_{pg}$ - $Chla$  relationship of the NOMAD database as already shown in [27]. The NOMAD relationship cannot be used in bays (e.g., B50), where the  $a_{pg}$ - $Chla$  relationship is disturbed by absorbing mineral particles and irregular  $a_g$  due to river discharge.

Our atmospheric correction and IOP estimation scheme which requires only four bands in the visible and NIR wavelengths can be applied to other satellite sensors, such as the MODIS

500-m bands, and other multi-band sensors, such as SGLI 250-m bands. The performance depends on the candidate spectra of IOPs based on in situ measurements (and aerosols) in the target areas. This reinforces the need to construct databases of the various spectra of IOPs and aerosols in various regions through international collaboration to develop globally applicable approaches. The target of this study is not to make a fixed algorithm, but demonstrate the method to make local optimal estimate of the IOPs and *Chla*. So, the algorithm should not be applied elsewhere without a similar effort *i.e.*, preparation of the candidate spectra for the target areas.

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## APPENDIX:

### Calculation of TOA reflectance with gaseous absorption correction

$$\rho_l(b) = L_{avnir2}(b) / f_{vc}(b) \times \pi \times d^2 / F_0(b) / \cos(\theta_{sun}) / t_{oz} / t_{wv} / t_{O2} \quad (A1)$$

$$\text{where } t_{oz} = \exp(-k_{oz}(b) \times (oz - 343.8) \times pl) \quad (A2)$$

$$t_{wv} = \exp(-\{ k_{wv}(b) \times (ptw - 14.19) \times pl + k_{wv2}(b) \times ((ptw \times pl)^2 - (14.19 \times pl)^2) \}) \quad (A3)$$

$$t_{O2} = \exp(-k_{O2}(b) \times (prs - 1013.25) \times 0.2095 \times pl) \quad (A4)$$

$$pl = 1 / \cos(\theta_{sun}) + 1 / \cos(\theta_{sat}) \quad (A5)$$

$L_{avnir2}$  is the AVNIR-2-observed radiance [ $\text{W/m}^2/\mu\text{m/sr}$ ],  $b$  represents the AVNIR-2 spectral bands,  $f_{vc}$  is the vicarious calibration factor defined as ratio of AVNIR-2 radiance to radiance simulated by MODIS observation,  $d$  is the sun-earth distance [AU],  $F_0$  is the solar irradiance at 1 AU [67],  $\theta_{sun}$  is the solar zenith angle [rad],  $\theta_{sat}$  is the satellite zenith angle [rad],  $oz$  is the column ozone [DU],  $ptw$  is the column water vapor [mm], and  $prs$  is the sea-level pressure [hPa]. The gas absorption coefficients  $k_{oz}$ ,  $k_{wv}$  and  $k_{O2}$  were calculated by MODTRAN 4 [68] considering the spectral response of the AVNIR-2 bands (Table 2). We used  $ptw$  and  $prs$  from the National Centers for Environmental Prediction (NCEP) and  $oz$  from the Ozone Monitoring Instrument (OMI), which is distributed by Goddard Space Flight Center.

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Table 1 Symbols and Definitions

Symbol	Description	Unit
$Chla$	chlorophyll-a concentration (sum of chlorophyll-a and divinyl chlorophyll-a)	$\text{mg m}^{-3}$
$R_{rs}$	remote sensing reflectance above sea surface	$\text{sr}^{-1}$
$r_{rs}$	remote sensing reflectance just below sea surface	$\text{sr}^{-1}$
$\rho_t$	top of atmosphere reflectance	-
$\rho_r$	atmospheric molecule reflectance	-
$\rho_a$	aerosol reflectance, including aerosol-molecule interaction	-
$\rho_g$	sunlint reflectance	-
$\rho_{wc}$	whitecap reflectance	-
$\rho_w$	water-leaving reflectance	-
$\rho_{ag}$	aerosol + sea surface reflectance ( $\equiv \rho_a + \rho_g + \rho_{wc}$ )	-
$\rho_{agw}$	Rayleigh-scattering subtracted reflectance	-
$t$	atmospheric direct transmittance (sun-surface + surface-satellite)	-
$T$	direct + diffuse transmittance (sun-surface + surface-satellite)	-
$\tau_a$	aerosol optical thickness	-
$M$	aerosol model number	-
$\lambda_b$	center wavelength of sensor spectral band	nm
$\alpha$	power function of spectral slope of $\rho_{ag}$	-
$c_{wl}$	correction factor of spectral slope	-
$pl$	air-mass (=2 when satellite and sun are both in nadir)	-
$a$	total absorption coefficient	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$a_w$	absorption coefficient of water	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$a_{ph}$	absorption coefficient of phytoplankton	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$a_d$	absorption coefficient of detritus	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$a_g$	absorption coefficient of CDOM	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$a_{pg}$	absorption coefficient of particles + CDOM	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$a_{ph}'$	model spectrum of phytoplankton absorption normalized at 442 nm	-
$a_{dg0}$	detritus+CDOM absorption at 442 nm	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$S$	spectral slope of $a_{dg}'$	-
$a_{dg}'$	model spectrum of detritus+CDOM absorption normalized at 442 nm	-
$r_{pg}$	ratio of $a_{ph}$ and $a_{dg}$ at 442 nm	-
$a_{pg0}$	phytoplankton+detritus+CDOM absorption at 442 nm	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$a_{pg}'$	model spectrum of phytoplankton+detritus+CDOM absorption normalized at 442 nm	-
$b_b$	total backscattering coefficient	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$b_w$	scattering coefficient of water	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$b_{bw}$	backscattering coefficient of water	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$b_{bp}$	backscattering coefficient of particles	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$b_{bp0}$	particle backscattering at 442 nm	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$Y$	spectral exponent of $b_{bp}'$	-
$b_{bp}'$	model spectrum of particle backscattering normalized at 442 nm	-
$\rho_b$	albedo of sea floor	-
$H$	bottom depth	m
$r_{rs}^{dp}$	remote-sensing reflectance for optically deep water	$\text{sr}^{-1}$
$\theta_{0w}$	subsurface solar zenith angle from nadir	radian
$\theta_w$	subsurface viewing angle from nadir	radian
$\theta_a$	above-surface viewing angle from nadir	radian
$\kappa$	attenuation coefficient	$\text{m}^{-1}$
$D_u^C$	optical path-elongation factors for scattered photons from the water column	-
$D_u^B$	optical path-elongation factors for scattered photons from the bottom	-
$L_{wn}$	normalized water-leaving radiance	$\text{mW}/\mu\text{m}/\text{sr}$

**Table 2 AVNIR-2 bands, cross-cal coefficients, and gas abruption coefficients**

AVNIR-2 band number ( $b$ )	1	2	3	4
Center wavelength ( $\lambda_b$ ) [nm]	463.0	560.0	652.1	820.6
Solar irradiance at 1 AU ( $F_0$ ) [W/m <sup>2</sup> /μm]	1943.3	1813.7	1562.3	1076.5
Calibration correction coefficients ( $f_{vc}$ )	0.976	1.019	1.001	0.958
Ozone absorption coefficient ( $k_{oz}$ )	$1.314 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.191 \times 10^{-4}$	$8.697 \times 10^{-5}$	$5.461 \times 10^{-6}$
Water vapor $k_{wv}$	0	$1.763 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.595 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.223 \times 10^{-3}$
absorption coefficient $k_{wv2}$	0	0	0	$-2.580 \times 10^{-6}$
O <sub>2</sub> absorption coefficient ( $k_{O2}$ )	0	0	0	$1.352 \times 10^{-4}$

**Table 3 Spectra of  $a_w$ ,  $b_{bw}$ , and  $a_{ph}$** 

Central wavelength (nm)	Band 1 (463.0)	Band 2 (560.0)	Band 3 (652.1)	Band 4 (820.6)	Band A (442)	Band B (555)
$a_w$ [53]	0.01085	0.07935	0.37969	3.41656	0.00684	0.05969
$b_{bw}$ [54]	0.00208	0.00091	0.00048	0.00018	0.00246	0.00093
(i) <i>New Caledonia</i> $a_{ph}$	0.84224	0.19490	0.11668	0.0	1.0	0.19869
(ii) <i>Picoplankton</i> $a_{ph}$ [58]	0.80046	0.07025	0.11225	0.0	1.0	0.04378
(iii) <i>Microplankton</i> $a_{ph}$ [58]	0.89368	0.37280	0.37919	0.0	1.0	0.37556

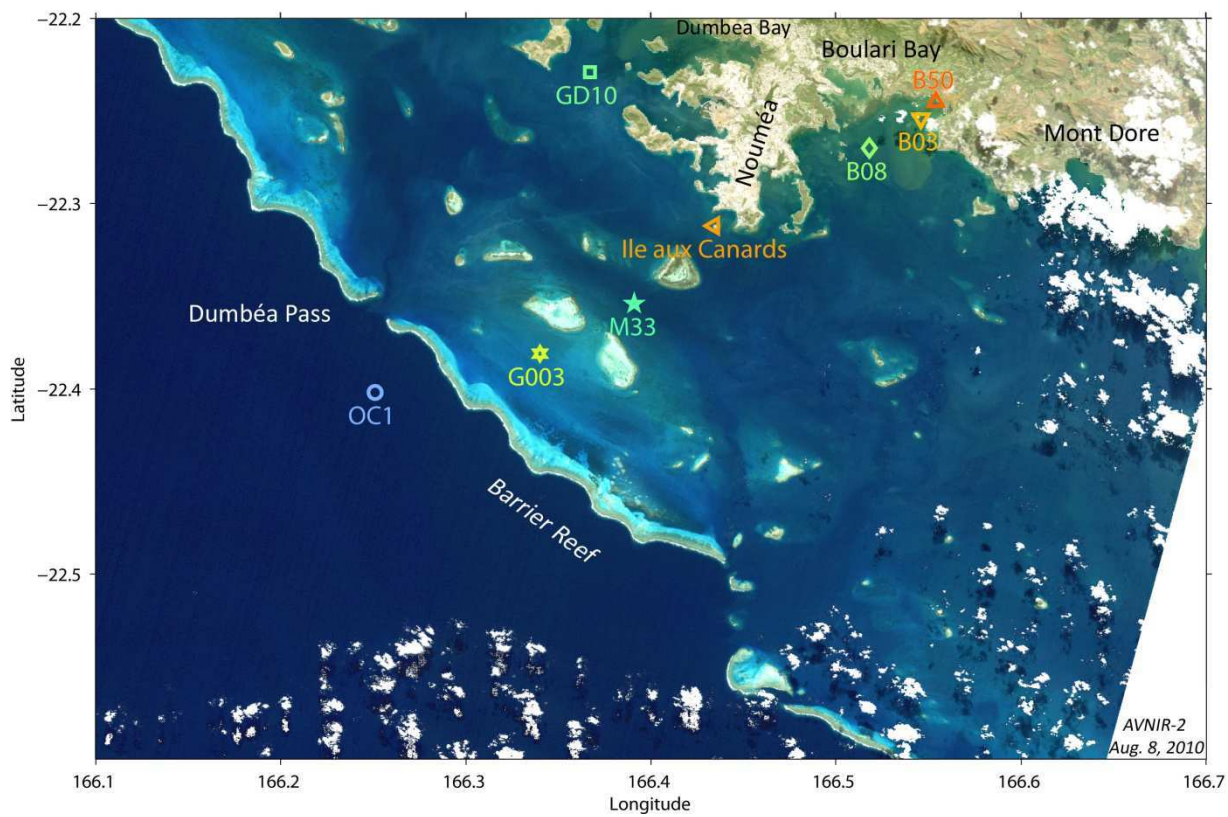
The values for bands 1-4 are weighted by the spectral response of the AVNIR-2 bands. The  $a_{ph}$  spectra (i) is used in (A) and (D)-(F) of Table 4, (ii) and (iii) are used in (B) and (C) of Table 4 respectively. Bands A and B (at 442 nm and 555 nm, respectively) were obtained by weighting using a rectangular response with  $\pm 5$  nm width.

**Table 4 Comparison between in situ and AVNIR-2 IOP estimates using different sets of IOP spectra**

Test No.	$a_{ph}$ spectrum	$S$	$Y$	AVNIR-2 $a_{pg}$ vs. in situ $a_p$ at 442 nm $\times$ 1.52			AVNIR2 vs. in situ $b_{bp}$ at 555 nm		
				$r$	$bias$	$RMSD$	$r$	$bias$	$RMSD$
without bottom	(A) <i>New Caledonia</i>	-0.010	-1.4	0.91	0.188	0.489	0.94	0.023	0.042
	(B) <b><i>Picoplankton</i></b> [58]	-0.010	-1.4	0.94	0.062	0.124 <sup>-</sup>	0.91	0.010	0.012 <sup>-</sup>
	(C) <b><i>Microplankton</i></b> [58]	-0.010	-1.4	0.93	0.466	1.134 <sup>+</sup>	0.91	0.056	0.119 <sup>+</sup>
	(D) <i>New Caledonia</i>	<b>-0.018</b>	-1.4	0.94	0.090	0.191 <sup>-</sup>	0.93	0.012	0.015 <sup>-</sup>
	(E) <i>New Caledonia</i>	-0.010	<b>-0.0</b>	0.94	0.033	0.098 <sup>-</sup>	0.93	0.012	0.015 <sup>-</sup>
	(F) <i>New Caledonia</i>	-0.010	<b>-2.0</b>	0.91	0.340	0.909 <sup>+</sup>	0.93	0.034	0.076 <sup>+</sup>
with bottom	(A) <i>New Caledonia</i>	-0.010	-1.4	0.95	0.118	0.290	0.96	0.015	0.025
	(B) <b><i>Picoplankton</i></b> [58]	-0.010	-1.4	0.80	-0.011	0.087 <sup>-</sup>	0.55	0.002	0.010 <sup>-</sup>
	(C) <b><i>Microplankton</i></b> [58]	-0.010	-1.4	0.93	0.458 <sup>+</sup>	1.132 <sup>+</sup>	0.91	0.055	0.118 <sup>+</sup>
	(D) <i>New Caledonia</i>	<b>-0.018</b>	-1.4	0.91	0.016	0.059 <sup>-</sup>	0.75	0.005	0.009 <sup>-</sup>
	(E) <i>New Caledonia</i>	-0.010	<b>-0.0</b>	0.72	-0.020	0.098 <sup>-</sup>	0.49	0.004	0.012 <sup>-</sup>
	(F) <i>New Caledonia</i>	-0.010	<b>-2.0</b>	0.91	0.315	0.898 <sup>+</sup>	0.93	0.031	0.074 <sup>+</sup>

Sample number N=15. In situ averages of  $a_p \times 1.52$  at 442 nm and  $b_{bp}$  at 555 nm were 0.099 m<sup>-1</sup> and 0.0055 m<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. Superscripts <sup>-</sup> and <sup>+</sup> show values that were smaller and larger compared to case (A) at significance level of 95%.  $S$  and  $Y$  are defined in the text (Eqs. (12) and (13)).

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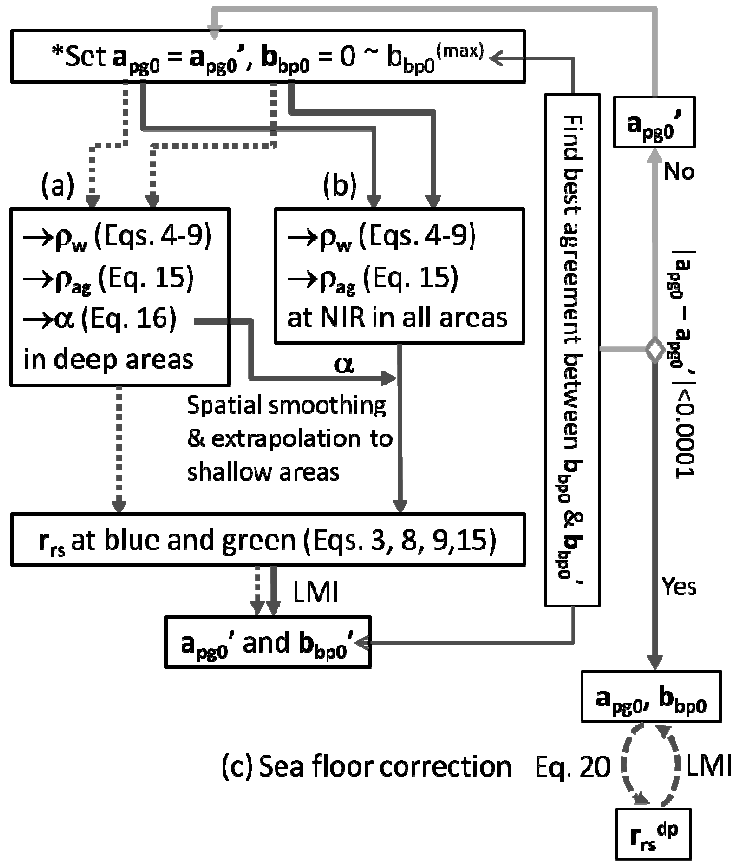
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729 Figure 1 New Caledonia lagoon and in situ observation stations used in this study (B50, B03,  
730 B08, GD10, Ile aux Canards, M33, G003, and OC1). The background image is the RGB image  
731 of  $R_{rs}$  at 652 nm, 560 nm, and 463 nm derived from this study.

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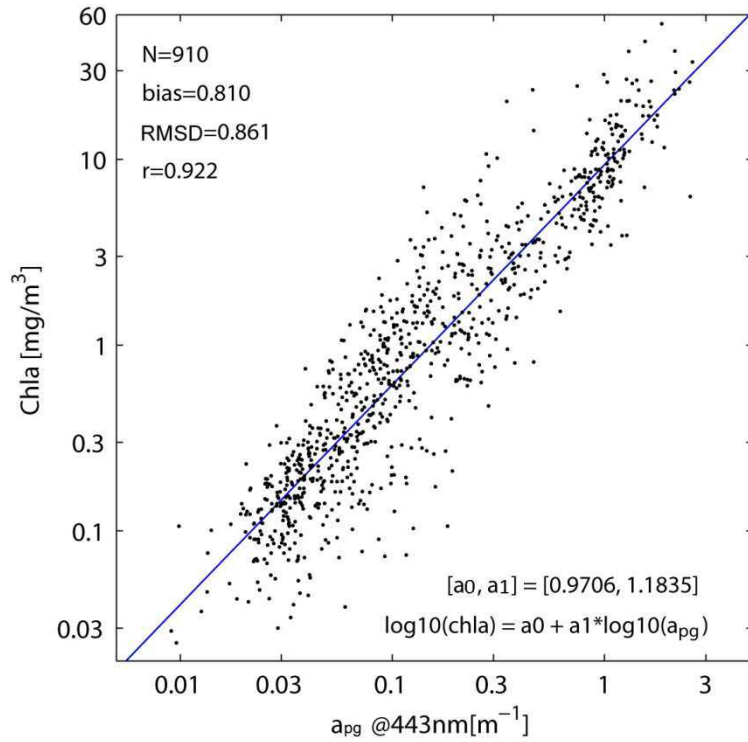
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Figure 2 Processing flow of the IOP and aerosol correction. The operation starts from \*. The first flow (a) produces the  $\alpha$ , which is used in the second flow (b). After  $a_{pg0}$  is converted ( $|a_{pg0} - a_{pg0}'| < 0.0001$ ), the sea-floor correction (c) is applied..

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741 Figure 3 Relation between  $Chla$  and  $a_{pg}$  or blue-green  $R_{rs}$  ratio ( $\log_{10}$  base) based on NOMAD  
 742 [55].  $N$ ,  $RMSD$ , and  $r$  indicate sample number, root mean square error of the regression ( $\log_{10}$   
 743 scale), and the correlation.  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  are coefficients of the linear regression, *i.e.*,  $\log_{10}(Chla) =$   
 744  $0.9706 + 1.1835 \log_{10}(a_{pg})$ .

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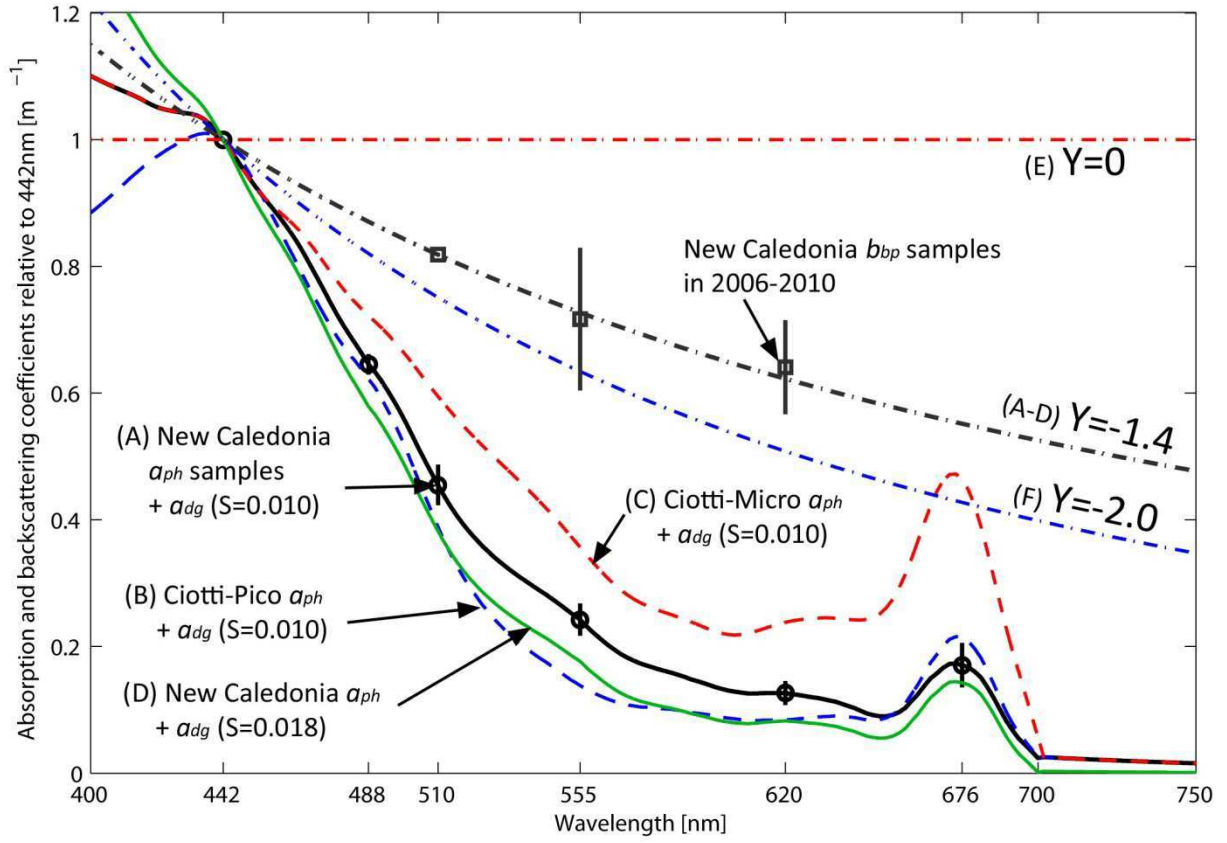
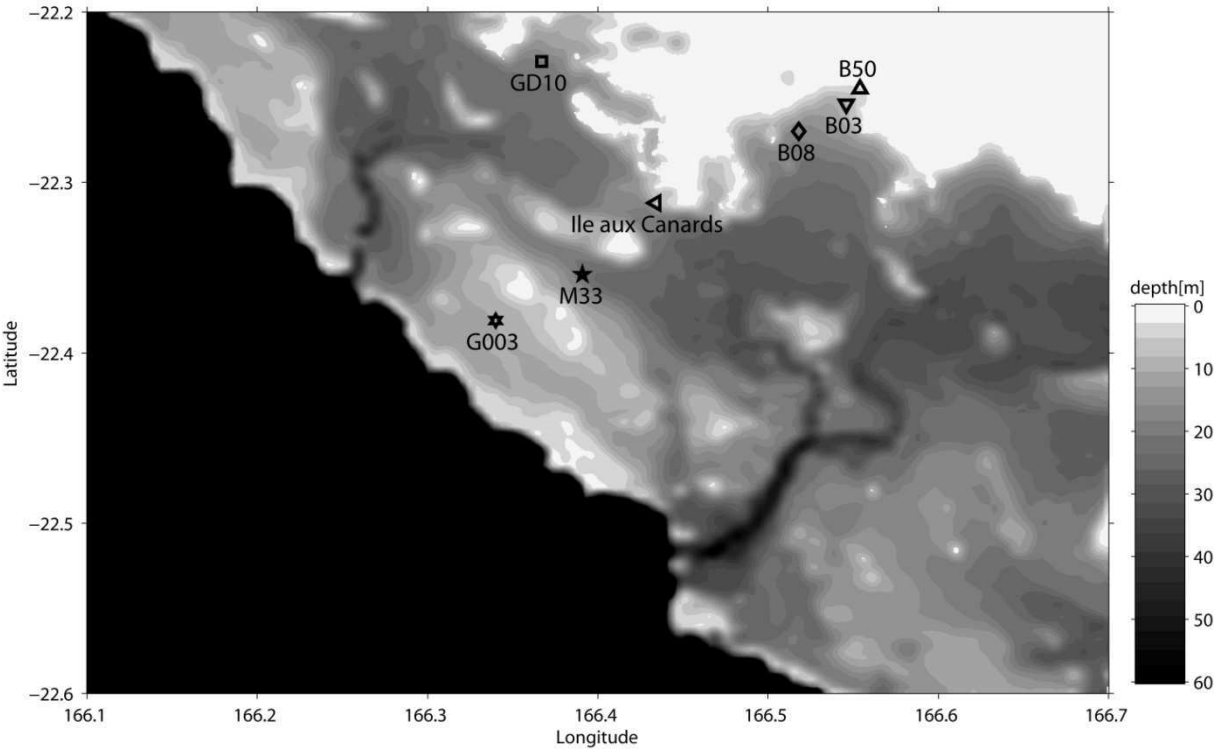


Figure 4 Model spectra of  $a_{pg}$  and  $b_{bp}$  used in this study. Models of  $a_{pg}$  (A) and  $b_{bp}$  ( $Y=-1.4$ ) were set from the New Caledonia measurements.  $S$  was defined as  $a_{dg}=\exp(S\times(\lambda-442))$  as in Eq. (12), and  $Y$  was defined as  $b_{bp}=(\lambda/442)^Y$  in Eq. (13). The spectra for picoplankton (B) and microplankton (C) from [58] were used for comparison. Curves are indicated for different  $Y$  slopes for  $b_{bp}$  ( $Y=0$  and  $Y=-2$ , see also Table 4). Bars show standard deviation of the in situ measurements.

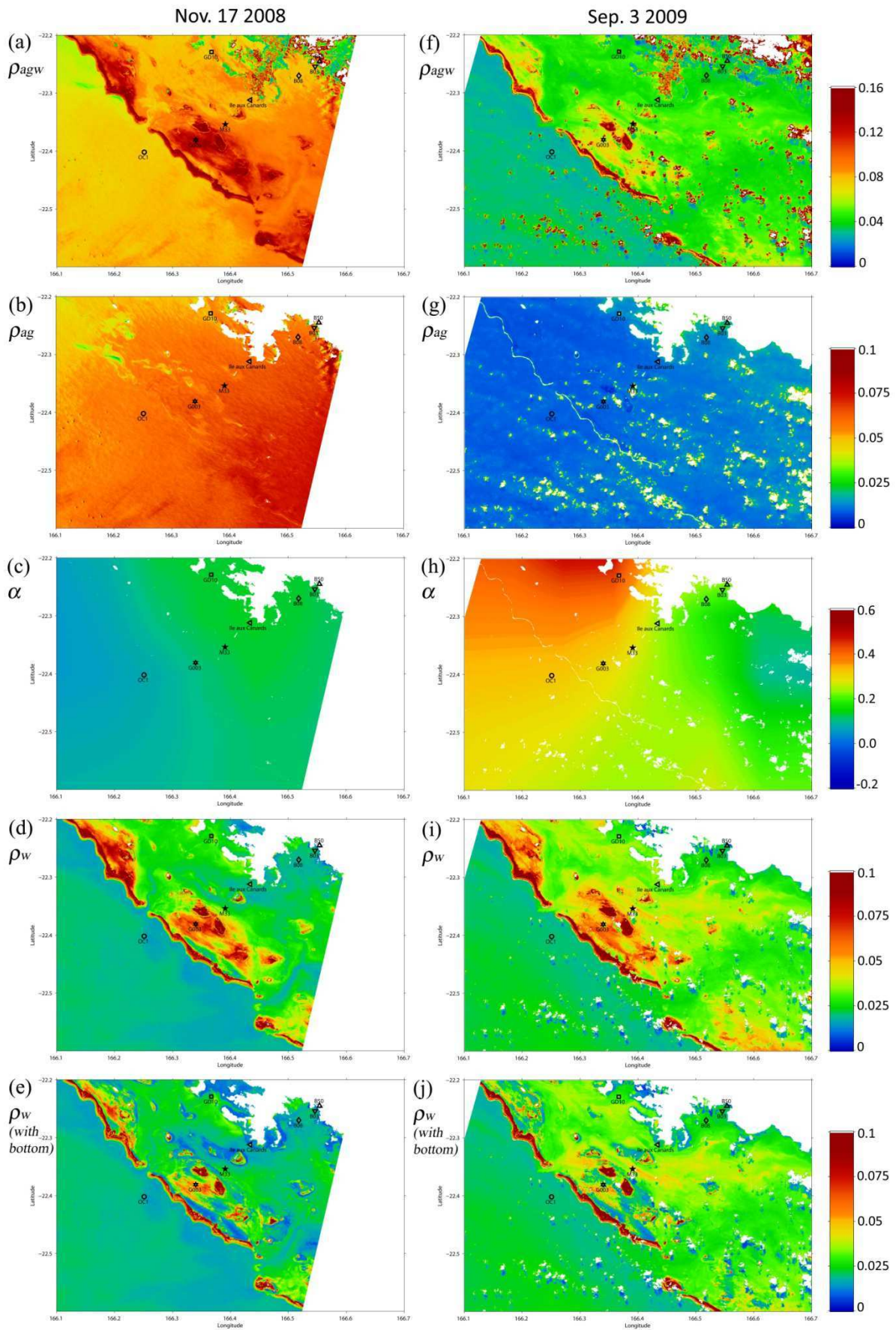
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758 Figure 5 Bathymetry in the target area [12]. Deep areas ( $>60\text{m}$ ) are filled by black.

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761 Figure 6 Examples of AVNIR-2-derived  $\rho_{agw}$ ,  $\rho_{ag}$ ,  $\alpha$ ,  $\rho_w$  without bottom correction, and  $\rho_w$  at  
762 463 nm with bottom correction for 17 Nov 2008 (a-e) and for 3 Sep. 2009 (f-j) (using model  
763 (A) in Table 4). The field measurement sites are shown in each panel.

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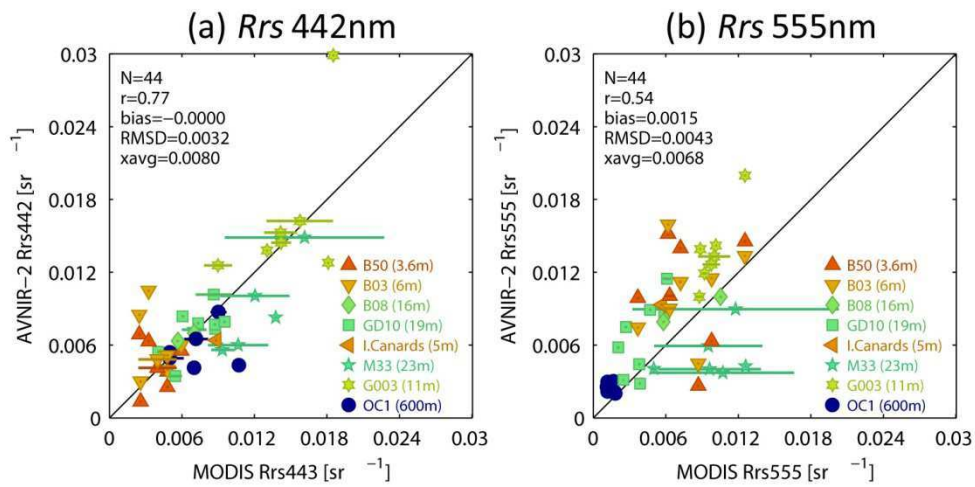
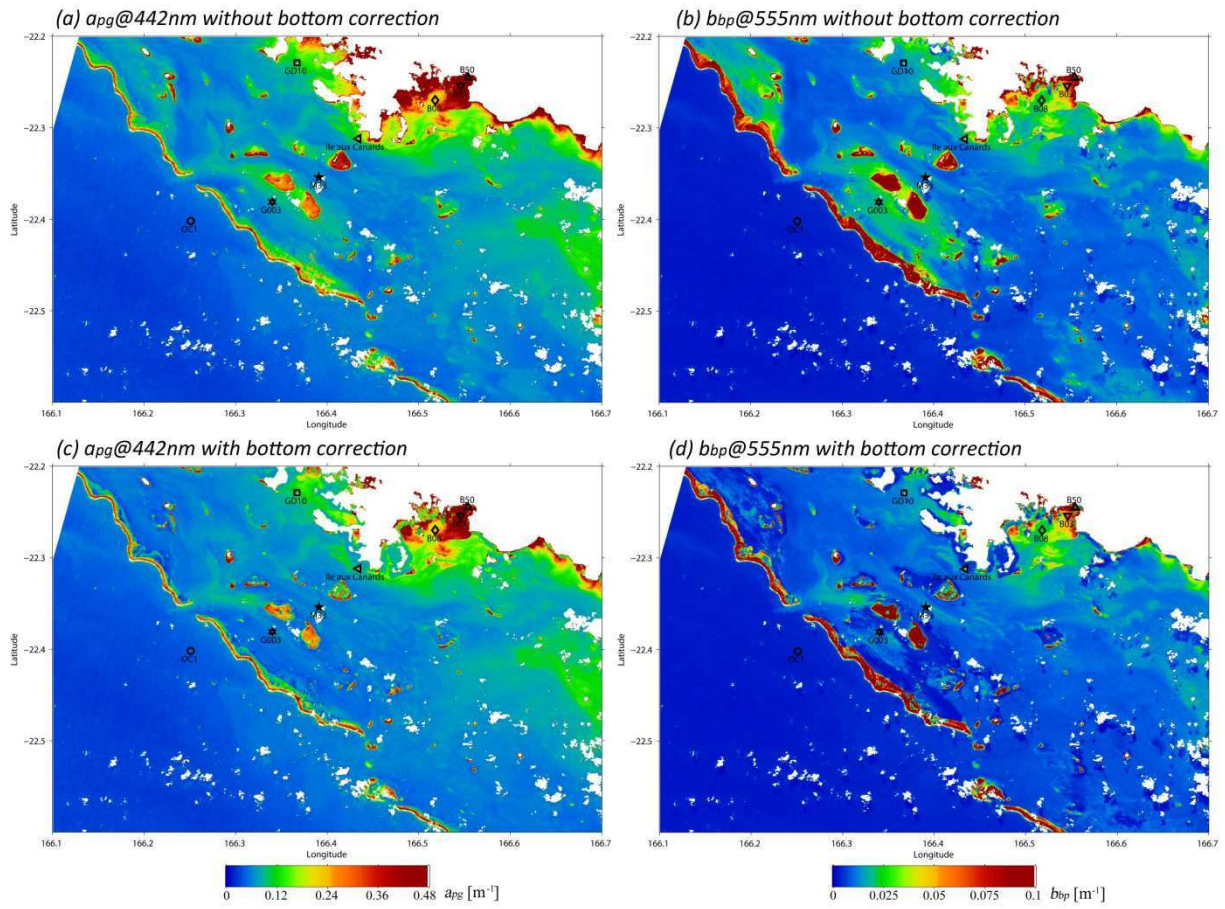


Figure 7 Comparison between AVNIR-2  $R_{rs}$  at 442 nm and MODIS  $R_{rs}$  at 443 nm (a) and at 555 nm (b) for 44 samples. The markers distinguish between the different observation stations. The horizontal bars show the standard deviation of the multiple MODIS scenes.



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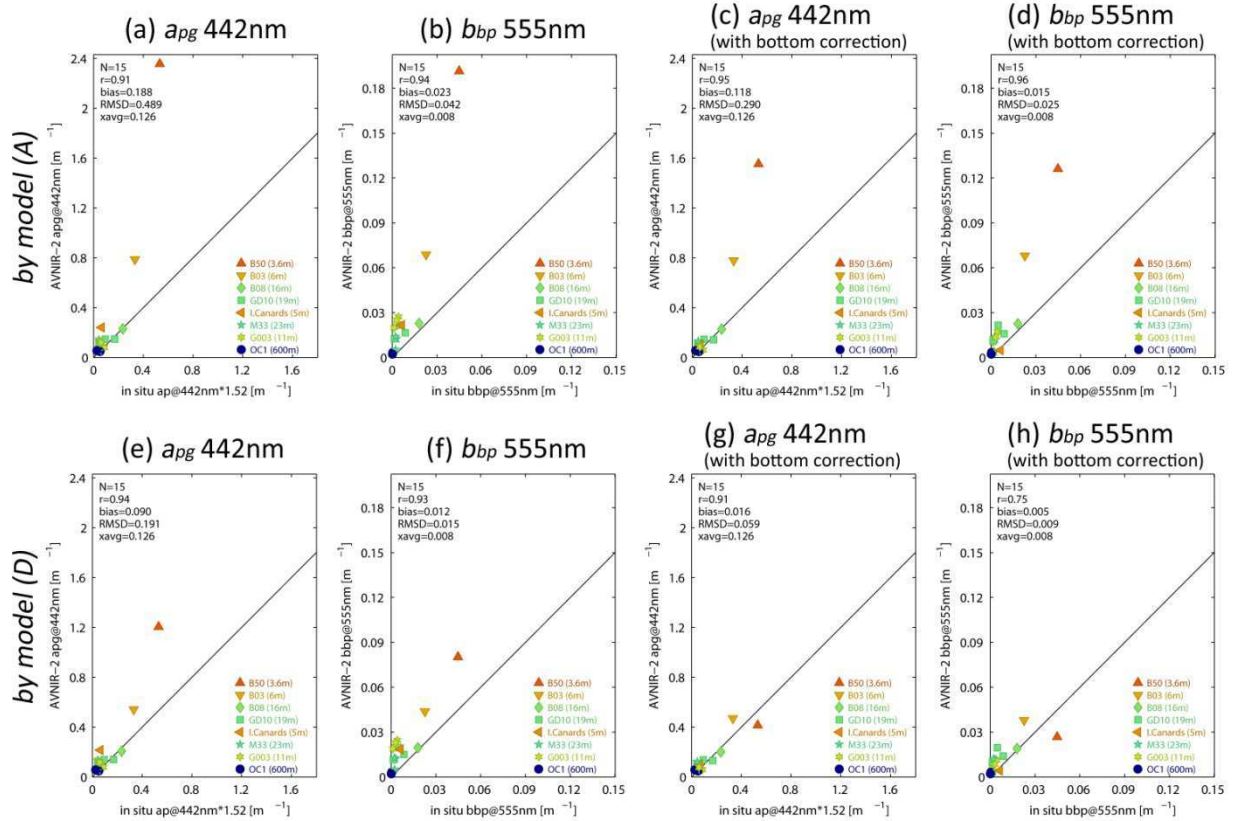


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775 Figure 8 AVNIR-2 estimation of (a)  $a_{pg}$  at 442nm and (b)  $b_{bp}$  at 555nm on 3 Sep 2009 (using  
 776 model spectra (A) in Table 4 and no correction of the bottom reflection). (c) and (d) are same  
 777 as (a) and (b) except applying the correction of the bottom reflection. Markers show in situ  
 778 observation stations.

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783 Figure 9 Scatter diagrams of (a) AVNIR-2  $a_{pg}$  and in situ  $a_p (\times 1.52)$  at 442 nm, (b)  $b_{bp}$  at 555  
 784 nm from model (A) in Table 4. (c) and (d) are same as (a) and (b) except applying the  
 785 correction of the bottom reflection. N, r, bias, and RMSD, indicate sample number, correlation  
 786 coefficient, bias of AVNIR-2 from in situ, and root mean square difference. xavg indicates the  
 787 average of in situ data (in  $\text{m}^{-1}$ ). (e)-(h) are same as (a)-(d) except they are derived from model  
 788 (D).

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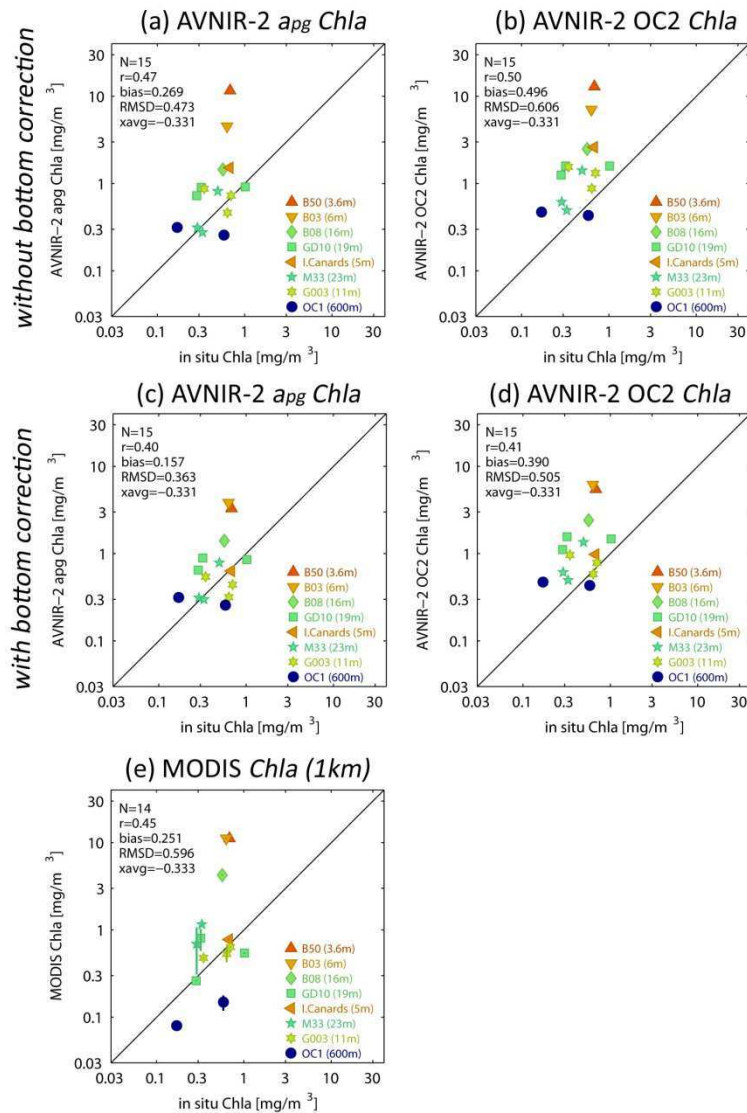


Figure 10 Scatter diagrams of in situ *Chla* and (a) *Chla* from AVNIR-2 *apg*, (b) *Chla* from AVNIR-2 OC2M-HI, (c) and (d) are same as (a) and (b) except applying the bottom correction, (e) *Chla* from the MODIS standard OC3M (1 km), and (f) the scatter plot between AVNIR-2 *apg Chla* and the MODIS OC3M *Chla*. Bars show the standard deviation of the multiple MODIS scenes around the AVNIR-2 observation dates or the standard deviation of 3×3 pixels of AVNIR-2 data. N, r, bias, RMSD, and xvag show sample number, correlation coefficient, bias, root mean square difference, and the average of x-axis variables in log<sub>10</sub> scale.



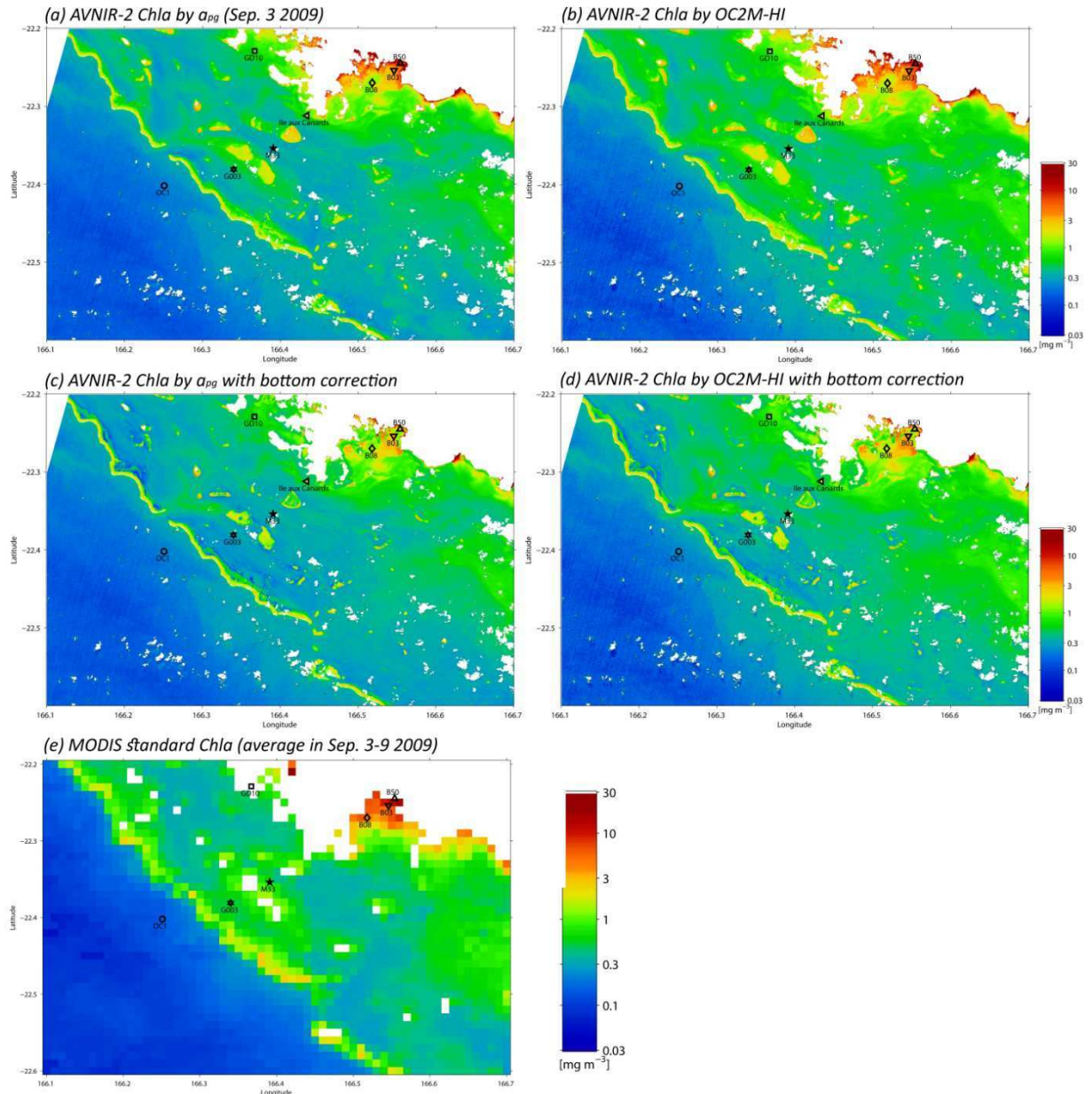


Figure 11 (a), (b), and (e) are  $Chla$  from  $a_{pg}$ ,  $Chla$  from OC2M-HI (Sep. 3 2009) and the MODIS standard  $Chla$  (average from Sep. 3 to Sep. 9 in 2009). (c) and (d) are the same as (a) and (b) except applying the bottom correction. Markers show the in situ observation stations on Sep 9 2009.